



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,257	02/25/2002	Xiao Fei Huang	OIC0047P3US	4360
6/0/75 7590 06/23/2009 CAMPBELL STEPHENSON LLP 11401 CENTURY OAKS TERRACE BLDG. H, SUITE 250 AUSTIN, TX 78758				
EXAMINER DONAGHUE, LARRY D				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2454				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/23/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,257

Applicant(s)

HUANG ET AL.

Examiner

Larry D. Donaghue

Art Unit

2454

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claims 1-24 are presented for examination.

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims, have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

The indicated allowability of claims 2 and 12 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Kessler 2009/0031230. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al. (6,000,000) in view of Kesler et al. (2009/003120).

Regarding claims 1,2 and 11-12, Hawkins et al. (USPN 6,000,000), hereafter referred to as Hawkins teach a system with means for:

- Coupling a handheld device to a server, the server having a first database and the handheld device having a second database, the handheld device having an application that allows a user to access the second database (figure 4 handheld computer file system and data bases 441-443; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).
- Causing the server to provide to the handheld device an application update if the

application needs to be updated (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14) However Hawkins et al. fail to expressly disclose metadata.

- Causing the handheld device to record transactions performed on the second database by a user (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; col. 11, 15-49, note this passage set forth the passing of specific information by which the sync of the data is performed).

Causing the handheld device to provide to the server transaction information, wherein the transaction information is related to the recorded transactions (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; col. 11, 15-49, note this passage set forth the passing of specific information by which the sync of the data is performed).

- Causing the server to extract data from the first database to be used to update the second database (figure 4; figure 6; col. 15, lines 14-36, such as the Sync Manager Library oversees the synchronization process and uses individual "Conduit" libraries to perform the synchronization of each database).
- Causing the server to provide to the handheld device at least a portion of the extracted data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Hawkins does not expressly recite updating the Metadata, Kessler taught the updating of Metadata to perform the updating of the application, and the benefit of the using Metadata to perform the operation ((para. 0194 and 0215).

Regarding claims 2 and 12, Kesler taught using the metadata to add fields to the database (paragraph 0194 and 0215).

Regarding claims 3 and 13, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11, respectively. They further teach means wherein coupling the handheld device to the server comprises coupling the handheld device to a companion device that can be coupled to the server (such as "the application Programming Interface (API) figure 4; figure 6; see col. 6, lines 5-27, and column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to

claims 1 and 11. They further teach means wherein a synchronization engine is configured to cause the server to provide the handheld device at least one of the application update or the extracted data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine resides in the server (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 6 and 16, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine resides in a companion device that is coupled to the server and the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 7 and 17, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the synchronization engine resides in the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 8 and 20, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11. They further teach means wherein a synchronization manager is configured to cause the handheld device to provide to the server the transaction information (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 9 and 21, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 8 and 20, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager resides in the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 10 and 22, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 8 and 20, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager resides in a companion device that is coupled to the server and the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column

8, line 14).

Regarding claim 18, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 14. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine also includes the means for causing the server to extract data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 19, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 14. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine also includes the means for causing the server to perform a transaction (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 23 and 24, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 20. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager also includes the means for causing the handheld device to record transactions (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 - column 8, line 14).

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Chang et al.	6,035,324
Iyer et al.	20070192304
Frankland et al.	20080256133

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Larry D. Donaghue whose telephone number is 571-272-3962. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nathan Flynn can be reached on 571-272-1915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Larry D Donaghue
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2454

/Larry D Donaghue/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2454